NEWS

For Immediate Release Sept. 25, 2018

SCAQMD Curbs Excess Emissions from Idling Coach Buses in the San Fernando Valley

In order to reduce local residents' exposure to harmful diesel exhaust, the South Coast Air Quality Management District has taken enforcement action against coach buses that idled excessively in a hotel parking lot. Since May, SCAQMD inspectors have issued notices of violation to seven coach bus companies operating in the Studio City area of Los Angeles.

"Long-term exposure to diesel emissions can increase cancer risks and has been linked to a number of respiratory and heart diseases. We are therefore doing our part to hold businesses accountable and prevent excess idling of diesel buses," said Wayne Nastri, SCAQMD's executive officer.

SCAQMD issued each bus company a notice of violation, using authority delegated by the California Air Resources Board, for idling a diesel-fueled auxiliary power system for more than five minutes within 100 feet of a restricted area, in this case a hotel. On-board auxiliary power systems provide electricity to the buses' air conditioning units and outlets. SCAQMD used this authority for the first time earlier this year in citing a big-rig truck for excess idling.

SCAQMD inspectors cited the following coach bus companies at Sportsmen's Lodge at 12825 Ventura Blvd. on three separate visits between May and June:

- All Access Coach Leasing, LLC;
- FC Lawson, Inc.;
- Hemphill Brothers Coach Co.;
- Pioneer Coach, Inc.;
- Roberts Brothers Coach Leasing Co., Inc.;
- Russell Coach Co., LLC; and
- Taylor Tours, LLC.

As a result of SCAQMD's enforcement action, it has prevented as much as 9.5 tons per year of smog-forming nitrogen oxide emissions and up to 0.6 tons per year of particulate emissions from idling buses at the venue.

Sportsmen's Lodge plans to install electrical hookups for coaches so that they will not have to idle to generate power for the buses while parked, according to facility representatives.

SCAQMD was alerted to the idling buses by a complaint. SCAQMD encourages anyone who suspects an air pollution violation to report it online at www.aqmd.gov or by calling 1-800-CUT-SMOG.

SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.